

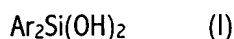
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

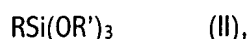
Listing of Claims:

1-24. (Cancelled)

25. (Previously Presented) A composition comprising a photoinitiator and a silicic acid polycondensate, wherein the silicic acid polycondensate is produced by a process comprising condensing one or more organically modified silanediols of the general formula I



with one or more organically modified silanes of the general formula II



wherein said condensing is performed without adding water, wherein the molar ratio of said silanediols of the general formula I to said silanes of the general formula II is 1:1, wherein up to 90 mole percent of said silane of the general formula II is optionally replaced by one or more co-condensable compounds selected from the group consisting of boron compounds, aluminum compounds, silicon compounds, germanium compounds, titanium compounds and zirconium compounds, and wherein

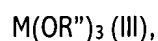
Ar is a radical comprising 6 to 20 carbon atoms and one or more aromatic groups,

R is an organic radical comprising 2 to 15 carbon atoms and one or more epoxy groups and/or one or more C=C double bonds,

R' is methyl or ethyl,

wherein said photoinitiator is present in said composition in a quantity effective for photochemical curing via UV.

26. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 25, wherein said one or more co-condensable compounds comprise compounds of the general formula III,



wherein M is boron or aluminum, R'' is an alkyl radical comprising 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and wherein said silanediols of the general formula I, said silanes of the general formula (II) and said compounds of the general formula (III) are present in the resultant polycondensate in a molar ratio (I):(II):(III) = 1:(1-x_{III}):2/3x_{III}, wherein x_{III} is greater than 0 and less or equal than 0.9.

27. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 26, wherein x_{III} is greater than 0 and less or equal than 0.8.

28. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 26, wherein said compounds of the general formula III are condensation catalysts in said condensing.

29. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 25, wherein said one or more co-condensable compounds comprise compounds of the general formula IV

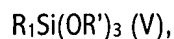


wherein M' is silicon, germanium, titanium or zirconium, R'' is an alkyl radical comprising 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and wherein said silanediols of the general formula I, said silanes of the general formula (II) and said compounds of the general formula (IV) are present in the resultant polycondensate in a molar ratio (I):(II):(IV) = $1:(1-x_{IV}):1/2x_{IV}$, wherein x_{IV} is greater than 0 and less or equal than 0.9.

30. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 29, wherein x_{IV} is greater than 0 and less or equal than 0.8.

31. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 29, wherein said compounds of the general formula IV when M' is titanium or zirconium are condensation catalysts in said condensing.

32. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 25, wherein said one or more co-condensable compounds comprise compounds of the general formula V:



wherein

R' is methyl or ethyl;

R₁ is selected from a group consisting of CF₃-(CF₂)_n-C₂H₄-; R₂HN-(CH₂)₃-; ~~C₂H₄-NHR₂~~ C₂H₄-NHR₂; H₂N-C₂H₄-NH-CH₂-C₆H₄-C₂H₄-; substituted and unsubstituted alkyl comprising 1 to 8 carbon atoms; and substituted and unsubstituted phenyl, ~~totyl~~ tolyl and naphtyl,

wherein n is an ~~interger~~ integer from 0 to 7, wherein R₂ is H, CH₃ or C₂H₅, wherein R₁ optionally comprises one or more SH groups, one or more N(R*)₂ groups or a combination thereof, wherein R* is hydrogen or alkyl, and wherein said silanediols of the general formula (I), said silanes of the general formula (II) and said

compounds of the general formula (V) are present in the resultant polycondensate in a molar ratio (I):(II):(V) = 1:(1-x_v):(x_v), wherein x_v is more than 0 and less or equal than 0.9.

33. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 32, wherein said compounds of the general formula V wherein R¹ being R²HN-(CH₂)₃-, where R₂ = H, CH₃, C₂H₅, or HN-C₂H₄-NH₂-CH₂-C₆H₄-C₂H₄- are condensation catalysts in said condensing.

34. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 32, wherein x_v is greater than 0 and less or equal than 0.8.

35. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 32, wherein R₁ of the general formula V comprises one more SH groups, one or more N(R*)₂ groups or a combination thereof, wherein R* is hydrogen or alkyl.

36. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 25, wherein said condensing is carried out in the presence of a condensation catalyst, wherein the condensation catalyst is triethylamine, NH₄F or alkaline earth hydroxide.

37. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 25, wherein Ar of said organically modified silanediols of the general formula I is a substituted aromatic group.

38. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 25, wherein Ar of said organically modified silanediols of the general formula I is a phenyl, naphthyl or styryl group.

39. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 25, wherein R of said silanes of the general formula comprises one or more acryl groups or one or more methacryl groups.

40. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 25, wherein said one or more double bonds of said radical R of said silanes of the general formula II are one or more double bonds of an acryl or a methacryl group.

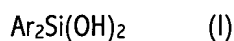
41. (Previously Presented) A material comprising the composition of claim 25, wherein said material is photostructurable in layers of a thickness of 1 to 150 μm .

42. (Previously Presented) The material of claim 41, wherein said material is stable in storage.

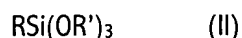
43. (Previously Presented) The material of claim 41, wherein said material is NIR permeable.

44. (Previously Presented) A method for producing photocurable silicic acid polycondensates, comprising

(a) condensing one or more organically modified silanediols of the general formula I



with one or more organically modified silanes of the general formula II



in the presence of a base without adding water, wherein a molar ratio of said silanediols of the general formula I to said silanes of the general formula II is 1:1, wherein up to 90 mole percent of said silane of the general formula II is optionally replaced by one or more co-condensable compounds selected from the group consisting of boron compounds, aluminum compounds, silicon compounds, germanium compounds, titanium compounds and zirconium compounds, and wherein

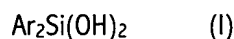
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R is an organic radical comprising 2 to 15 carbon atoms and one or more epoxy groups and/or one or more C=C double bonds,

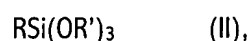
R' is methyl or ethyl; and

(b) adding a photoinitiator.

45. (Currently Amended) A silicic acid polycondensate produced by condensing one or more organically modified silanediols of the general formula I



with one or more organically modified silanes of the general formula II



wherein said condensing is performed without adding water, wherein the molar ratio of said silanediols of the general formula I to said silanes of the general formula II is 1:1, wherein up to 90 mole percent of said silane of

the general formula II is optionally replaced by one or more co-condensable compounds selected from the group consisting of boron compounds, aluminum compounds, silicon compounds, germanium compounds, titanium compounds and zirconium compounds, and wherein

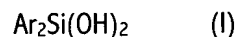
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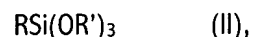
R' is methyl or ethyl.

46. (Currently Amended) A material comprising the silicic acid polycondensate of claim 45, wherein said material is ~~photostucturable~~ photostructurable in layers of a thickness of 1 to 150 μm .

47. (Previously Presented) A method for producing silicic acid polycondensates, comprising condensing one or more organically modified silanediols of the general formula I



with one or more organically modified silanes of the general formula II



wherein said condensing is performed without adding water, wherein the molar ratio of said silanediols of the general formula I to said silanes of the general formula II is 1:1, wherein up to 90 mole percent of said silane of the general formula II is optionally replaced by one or more co-condensable compounds selected from the group consisting of boron compounds, aluminum compounds, silicon compounds, germanium compounds, titanium compounds and zirconium compounds, and wherein

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